

## ABSTRACT

An audio/video (or audiovisual, "A/V") signal processing apparatus and method for extracting a compact representation of a multimedia description and transcoding hints metadata for transcoding between different (e.g., MPEG) compressed content representations, manipulating (e.g., MPEG compressed) bitstream parameters such as frame rate, bit rate, session size, quantization parameters, and picture coding type structure (e.g., group of pictures, or "GOP"), classifying A/V content, and retrieving multimedia information.